## **REMARKS**

The Restriction Requirement of October 12, 2006 has been carefully reviewed.

It is to be noted that the first paragraph of page 1 of the application is amended to point out that the cross-linked polymer compound obtained by the process of group I is the subject of U.S. 6,677,446 issued January 13, 2004.

With respect to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects group II, presently directed to claims 2-5 and 13, and with the further understanding that dependent claims 6-12 and 14 will be rejoined upon the allowability of the claims in group II. See MPEP § 821.04 set forth in the latest revision of August 2005. Group III is drawn to a process of making the support of group II and groups IV and V are drawn to processes for using the support material of group II.

In view of this response to the restriction requirement, an early action on the merits of the application is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

I. William Millen, Reg. No. 19,544 Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C. Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400 2200 Clarendon Boulevard Arlington, Virginia 22201 Telephone: (703) 243-6333 Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

Attorney Docket No.: PET-1802-D02

Date: December 11, 2006

IWM:pdr